1	2	3
97.	Jasvir Ram s/o Pal Ram	Cheemakhurd, Apra, Jalandhar, Punjab
98.	Amolak Singh s/o Joginder Singh	Awaon, Amritsar, Punjab
99.	Ravinder Singh s/o Kapoor Singh	Tandi, Kapurthala, Punjab
100.	Charanjeet Singh s/o Jagdish Singh	Batala, Gurdaspur, Punjab
101.	Manjeet Singh s/o Kishan Singh	Budhabala, Gurdaspur, Punjab
102.	Gurjeet Singh s/o Balvir Singh	Pul Pukhta, Hoshiarpur, Punjab

Extradition treaties

3164. SHRI LALIT SURI:
DR. VIJAY MALLYA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries in our neighbourhood, West Asia and Europe, where criminals whether Indian or foreigner, take refuge after committing crime in India and with which we don't have extradition treaties; and

(b) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to have extradition treaties with those countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The criminals after committing the crime in India don't move towards any specific destinations abroad. The Government of India have Extradition Treaties with 21 countries, such as Belgium, Bhutan, Canada, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Korea (ROK), Mongolia, Nepal, Netherlands, Oman, Poland, Russia, Spain, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, UAE, U.K., USA, and Uzbekistan.

(b) It has been the policy of the Government of India to conclude extradition treaties with as many countries as possible.

Prime Minister's foreign visit

3165. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister visited a number of countries during this year and signed agreements with the Heads of those countries;

(b) if so, the names of those countries and nature of agreements/ discussions held in each case, country-wise;

(c) whether Heads of certain foreign countries also visited India and signed agreements and held discussions with the Prime Minister during this year; and

(d) if so, the names of the country and one nature of agreements/ discussions held with Indian leaders, country-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The names of countries and nature of agreements/discussions held in each case, country-wise, are as follows:

Mauritius

The Prime Minister visited mauritius from 30th March to 2 April, 2005. Prime Minister did not sign any agreement during the visit. Apart from holding discussions with the Prime Minister of Mauritius, Prime Minister had meetings with the President, Deputy Prime Miniter, Leader of Opposition, Chief Justice and Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Regional Cooperation of Mauritius. A broad range of issues of mutual interest was discussed during the visit. India has very close relations with Mauritius and a number of proposals for boosting cooperation between the two countries in the fields of commerce, economy, defence, small-scale industries, and oil were discussed. It is envisaged that as a result of this visit Indo-Mauritian ties will be further strengthened and consolidated.

Indonesia

Prime Minister attended the Asian-African Summit in Jakarta and the Bandung Commemoration Conference in Bandung on 22-23 April and 24 April, 2005 respectively. It was not a bilateral visit. No agreements were concluded during the visit.

Russia

Prime Minister visited Russia from 8—10 May, 2005 at the invitation of President Putin to participate in the 60th anniversary of the Victory Day. Prime Minister met President Putin in a bilateral meeting and discussed a range of bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual concern. No agreement was signed.

United Kingdom

Prime Minister visited the UK for the G-8 Plus Five Summit at Gleneagles, UK in July, 2005. No separate bilateral meeting was held between Prime Minister and Prime Minister Tony Blair. No agreement was signed.

USA

Prime Minister visited the United States at the invitation of President Bush from 17-20 July, 2005. The agenda for discussions included strengthening of bilateral relations; building on common values and interests; enhancing cooperation for democracy and development and in the fields of energy and environment, non-proliferation and security, high technology, space and civilian nuclear energy. Regional and global issues of significance were also discussed. No agreements were signed during the visit.

(c) and (d) Details of visits to India by foreign dignitaries, country-wise:

Bhutan

His Majesty Jigme Singye Wangchuk, King of Bhutan, paid a six-day State visit to India from January 24 to 29, 2005 as Chief Guest for the Republic Day. His Majesty Jigme singye Wangchuk, also paid a working visit to India from August 1 to 4, 2005. During the State visit in January 2005, the following three MoUs were signed on January 25, 2005:

(i) Preparation of detailed project report for:

(a) Punatshangchhu (Stage-II) Hydropower Project

(b) Mangdechhu Hydropower Project

(ii) Establishment of Railway Links between bordering towns of India and Bhutan

(iii) Cooperation in the field of Agriculture and allied sectors.

The agreements strengthened the extensive ongoing economic cooperation between the two countries by adding new projects. Further, the agreement on rail links is expected to have far reaching benefits for people to people contacts between the two countries.

Sri Lanka

President Chandrika Bandaranaike Kumaratunga visited India on June 2—4, 2005. The entire gamut of bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest were discussed during the meeting with Prime Minister. No agreements were signed during the visit.

Pakistan

Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf visited India from 16—18 April 2005. He met the President and the Prime Minister. They assessed positively the developments in India-Pakistan relations. Reaffirming the commitments made in the Joint Press Statement of January 6, 2004 and the joint Statement issued after their meeting in New York on September 24, 2004, they took, *inter alia*. the following decisions: to pursue further measures to enhance interaction and cooperation across the LoC including agreed meeting points for divided families, trade, pilgrimages and cultural interaction; to increase the frequency of the Srinagar-Muzaffarabad bus service, to allow trucks to use this rout to promote trade; to operationalise additional routes including that between Poonch and Rawalakot; to start early the bus service between Amritsar, Lahore, Nankana Sahib and other religious places; to re-establish the Khokhrapar-Munnabao rourte, by 1st January, 2006; to open the Consulates General of the two countries in Mumbai and Karachi respectively before the end of the current year; to endorse the decisions taken on the schedule of meetings later in the year, the agreements to be worked upon through these meetings and the measures to be taken to alleviate the situation of prisoners; to convene discussions on the issues of Sir Creek and Siachen through the existing institutional mechanisms immediately, with view to expeditiously finding mutually acceptable solutions to both issues. It was agreed that the Ministers of Petroleum and Natural Gas would meet in May, 2005 to explore cooperation in the sector including on the issue of pipelines. It was also agreed to reactivate the Joint Economic Commission as early as possible and that Joint Business Council should meet soon.

Maldives

President Maumoon abdul Gayoom visited India from March 27 to April 1, 2005. He held talks with Prime Minister on a wide range of issues including bilateral, regional and international. No agreement was signed during the visit.

Afghanistan

President Hamid Karzai made a working visit to India from 23—25 February, 2005. He called on the President and held delegation level talks with the Prime Minister. Discussions with Indian leaders focused on bilateral relations including India's assistance programmes to Afghanistan. Two MoUs were signed during the visit.

(i) MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Media and Information which calls for greater interaction between media persons and radio and TV Organisations of the two countries.

(ii) MoU on Cooperation in the field of Civil Aviation aimed at building capacity and strengthening institutional structure of Afghan Civil Aviation Sector.

China

The Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao paid a State visit to India from April 9—12, 2005. During the visit, leaders of the two countries had in-depth exchange of views in a friendly and constructive atmosphere and reached a broad consensus on bilateral relations and international and regional issues of common concern. The two Prime Ministers signed a Joint Statement on April 11, 2005, offering a shared vision of the development of India-China relations and providing an action plan for cooperation in a wide-range of areas. Apart from the Joint Statement, following eleven other agreements were signed covering mutually beneficial cooperation in a wide-range of areas;

(i) Agreement on Political Parameters and Guiding Principles for the Settlement of the India-China Boundry Question;

(ii) Protocol on Modalities for the Implementation of CBMs in the Military Field Along the Line of Actual Control in the India-China Border Areas;

(iii) Agreement on Mutual Administrative Assistance and Cooperation in Customs Matters;

(iv) MoU on the Launch of the India—China Financial Dialogue;

(v) MoU on Civil Aviation;

(vi) Protocol of Phytosanitary Requirement for Exporting Grapes from India to China.

(vii) Protocol of Phytosanitary Requirement for Exporting of Bitter Gourds from India to China;

(viii) MoU on Provision of Hydrological Information of the Sutlej/ Langquen Zangbo River in Flood Season by China to India;

(ix) Protocol on India-China Film Cooperation Commission;

(x) MoU on Cooperation between the Indian Council of World Affairs and the Chinese People's Institute of Foreign Affairs; and

(xi) Memorandum on the Construction of an Indian style Buddhist Temple at the White Horse Temple in Luoyang, China.

Thailand

The Thai Prime Minister Dr. Thaksin Shinawatra paid a working visit to India on 3rd June, 2005 along with a 13-member delegation including the Foreign Minister and the S&T Minister. The Thai PM held talks with Prime Minister on a wide range of bilateral issues including FTA negotiations, civil aviation matters, and cooperation in the areas of tourism, science & technology, defence, security, culture and disaster relief. Cooperation in regional forums such as ASEAN and BIMSTEC, and on multilateral issues, was also discussed. An Educational Exchange Programme covering a wide range of exchange and collaborative activities between the Educational Institutions of India and Thailand was signed by Shri Arjun Singh, Minister of HRD and the Thai Foreign Minister Dr. Kantathi Suphamongkhon on 3rd June, 2005.

Singapore

The Prime Minister of Singapore Lee Hsien Loong paid a State visit to India from 28-30 June, 2005. During the visit, the Singapore Prime Minister called on the President and Vice-President, and held delegation level talks with the Prime Minister. The discussions covered the entire gamut of our bilateral relations with Singapore, India'a growing partnership with the ASEAN and several international issues of mutual concern. Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) between the Republic of India and the Republic of Singapore. A Protocol amending the Agreement on Avoidance of Double Taxation and Prevention of Fiscal

Evasion, Side letters to CECA and an Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of Singapore concerning Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters were signed.

Japan

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi of Japan paid an official visit to India from April 28—30, 2005. During the visit, the two Prime Ministers signed a Joint Statement captioned "India—Japan Partnership in the New Asian Era; Strategic Orientation of India-Japan Global Partnership". The Joint Statement outlines an updated vision of the India-Japan Global Partnership and lays down a concrete "Eight-fold Initiative" for fostering wide-ranging and multifaceted relationship with Japan. The discussions between the two Prime Ministers covered a wide range of bilateral, regional and international issues.

Seychelles

The President of Seychelles paid a State visit to India on 1st August, 2005. No agreements were signed during the visit. The Seychelles President had meetings with the President. Prime Minister, the Vice President, Minister for External Affairs, Minister of Defence and Leader of Opposition. The discussions covered a whole range of bilateral and international issues of mutual concern.

Uzbekistan

The Uzbek President Islam Karimov visited India from 4—6 April, 2005. The following bilateral Agreements between India Uzbekistan were signed during the visit:

(i) Agreement on cooperation in Military and Military-Technical areas between the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of India.

(ii) Exchange Programme between the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan and Government of the Republic of India on cooperation in the field of Education.

(iii) Programme of Cooperation between the Ministry of Culture of the Government of Republic of India and the Ministry of Culture and Sports of the Government of Republic of Uzbekistan for the period 2005—2007.

(iv) Agreement between the Government of Republic of India and the Government of Republic of Uzbekistan on Cooperation in the sphere of Support of Small and Private Enterpreneurship.

In addition to the above, 8 Agreements/MoUs were signed between various organizations of the two countries which are as follows:

Agreement on cooperation between the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan.

Agreement on cooperation between the Federation of Indian Export Organisations and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Uzbekistan.

Memorandum of Understanding between the State Trading Cooporation of India and the Agency for Foreign Economic Relations of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Protocol of Understanding between Ghalib Institute (India) and Tashkent State Institute of Oriental Studies (Uzbekistan).

Memorandum of Understanding between Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi and the University of World Economy and Diplomacy, Tashkent.

Protocol of Intention for cooperation in Tourism between the Tourism Development Corporation of India and the National Company of Uzbekistan "Uzbektourism"

Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the Export-Import Bank of India and the National Bank for Foreign Economic Relations of Uzbekistan.

Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation between the State Bank of India and the National Bank for Foreign Economic Relations of Uzbekistan.

During the visit, regional, bilateral and international issues were discussed.

Qatar

The Emir of Qatar paid a State Visit to India during 13—15 April 2005. Discussions were held with the Prime Minister on regional and

international issues and those of bilateral interest such as cooperation in the areas of oil and gas, civil aviation, trade and investment, health, education, information technology, tourism, security and defence cooperation and issues related to welfare of Indian expatriates in Qatar. These exchanges would lead to further strengthening and enhancement of bilateral cooperation to mutual benefit.

Palestine

The President of Palestinian National Authority Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen), accompanied by Palestinian Foreign Minister Nasser Al Kidwa undertook a working visit to India on 19th and 20th May, 2005. President Abbas and his delegation called on the President and held discussions with the Prime Minister and the External Affairs Minister on the revival of the Middle East Peace Process and also briefed the Prime Minister about the recent developments on Middle East Peace Process in the post-Arafat era. India reiterated its commitment to the Palestinian Cause and for a sovereign, Independent Palestinian State.

During the meeting India announced $15 million as grant to Palestine. The projects to be undertaken under this grant are being identified. No agreements were signed during this visit.

Italy

The Italian President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi visited India from February 12—16, 2005 Following agreements were signed.

(i) MoU on Political Cooperation;

(ii) MoU on Fishery and Aqua-culture Production;

(iii) MoU on Coooperation for the Conservation of Paintings of the Ajanta and Ellora Caves.

(iv) MoU for Research Fellowship in the fields of S&T;

(v) The Programme of Cooperation in the field of S&T for years 2005—07; and

(vi) Agreement between ISRO and the Italian Space Agency on Cooperation in Space Science, Technology and Applications.

Austria

Dr. Heinz Fischer, President of Austria Paid a State Visit to India from February 16 to 21, 2005. Two Agreements were signed, namely:

(i) Agreement on Infrasture Cooperation in Health Sector; and

(ii) MoU on Development of Collaboration between the Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh and the Medical University, Innsbruck.

The visiting President held discussions with the President, Prime Minister, External Affairs Minister, Defence Minister and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha. The discussions with various leaders centred around ways to deepen mutually beneficial cooperation in areas of common interest such as power, environment, health infrastructure. bio-technology, IT engineering and transport. The discussions also covered issues of international concern.

Iceland

The President of Iceland Olafur Ragnar Grimssion accompanied by his wife Mrs. Dorrit Moussaieff visited India from February 3—9, 2005 in connection with the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit organized by the Tata Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). President Grimssion paid a courtesy call on the President and met the Prime Minister. The two sides discussed issues of bilateral, regional and international importance. No agreements were signed during the visit.

Canada

The Prime Minister of Canada Paul Martin visited India from 17-18 January, 2005. In the Joint Statement issued after discussions between Prime Ministers of India and Canada, the two countries agreed to contribute expertise towards the creation of a tsunami early warning system for the countries in the Indian Ocean, in concert with multilateral efforts. The two leaders agreed to direct designated Scientific Advisers on each side to report on advancing S&T arrangements and encourage technologies. The two leaders also agreed to support a CEO Roundtable that would make recommendations for expanding economic ties, conclude an Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement and take additional steps, contributing to greater bilateral investment and trade.

Chile

The President of Chile Dr. Ricardo Lagos visited India from 18—22 January, 2005. The following three Agreements for cooperation were signed during the visit:

(i) Framework Agreement for Economic Cooperation.

(ii) Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Chilean Agricultural Research Institute.

(iii) Memorandum of Understanding on Sanitary and Phytosanitary issues between the Ministries of Agriculture.

Venezuela

The President of Venezuela Hugo Chavez visited India from 4—7 March, 2005. The following agreements were signed during the visit;

(i) MoU on India-Venezuela Joint Commission

(ii) MoU on Cooperation in the field of Space

(iii) Agreement on cooperation in the field of Hydrocarbons

(iv) MoU in the Area of Biotechnology

(v) MoU between ONGC Videsh Ltd. and PDVSA, the Venezuelan State Petroleum Company

(vi) MoU between IRCON and IAFE, the Venezuelan Railway Authority

UN Convention on Law of the Seas

3166. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA:
SHRI R.K. ANAND:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the UN Convention on Law of the Seas (UNCLOS) set a 2009 deadline for countries to submit their claims about the outer limit of their continental shelf beyond 200 nautical mile Exclusive Economic Zone;